

## Test Sleeping Sickness Cure

Doctors Believe Drug Gives Hope of Relief From Scourge of Africa.

NEW YORK — Para-arsenophenylbutyric acid is a long name, but it gives hope of a short cure for the scourge of Africa, sleeping sickness.

The new drug, on which a report appeared in "Science," an official journal of American scientists, will be "very important" commercially in Africa if it is as efficacious in the treatment of live ticks as current results indicate. It is the first of the United States public health service said at Baltimore.

The compound, composed of arsenic, butyric acid and another element, was developed in collaboration by Dr. Harry Hooper, Dr. G. O. Dock, Dr. H. G. Steinman and Dr. H. J. Warriner, medical researchers of the public health service in the agency's general disease research and postgraduate training center at Johns Hopkins university, Baltimore.

Tried Out in Africa. Last summer, Dr. Eagle took it abroad and used it for wide-scale experiments in cooperation with the sleeping sickness services of the Gold Coast, Nigeria, the Belgian Congo and the British forces in West Africa.

More than 200 human patients were treated with seeming success. The study ultimately will include more than 1,000 persons treated. Similar experiments are planned for Northern Rhodesia, French West Africa, French Equatorial Africa and Sierra Leone. The wide geographic distribution of the cases treated assured the inclusion of a variety of strains of the trypanosomes, the sickness-causing organism carried by the tsetse fly.

African sleeping sickness makes large areas of the continent uninhabitable. If the new treatment is a cure—and the experimenters will not say it is until they have had a year to observe the apparent cure—it will have the advantage of curing in two weeks or less a disease that formerly required three or four months of laborious treatment. This would facilitate mass treatments of the sick.

Holds Limited Promise. The compound holds promise that far only in cases where treatment is applied early. Where the brain and central nervous system have been affected there is much less hope of lasting good results.

Results also indicate that the drug may not be effective against some forms of trypanosomiasis—the scientific name for the disease—appearing in animals. Most of the humans who received experimental treatment were African natives, members of various Negro tribes, but the experimenters said that results would be equally good among other races.

African sleeping sickness has no relation to what is popularly called sleeping sickness in the United States—epidemic encephalitis, or encephalitis lethargica—which is caused by some yet undiscovered virus.

There is, however, a closely related disease, also believed to be carried by a fly, in South America, but the health service's researches have not yet extended there.

**Tiny Air Compressor** Will Help Mighty B-29s. CLEVELAND — A tiny, 10-horsepower air compressor, designed to lessen the vulnerability of B-29 Superfortresses to enemy anti-aircraft fire by flipping their bomb-bay doors open and shut in a fraction of the time now necessary, is in production.

Officials of the Weatherhead company announced that the units, which have 200 parts and are capable of exerting 1,500 pounds pressure, are now being assembled at the company's Cleveland plant.

The instant action of the compressors enables the bays to open, release their load and snap shut again in life-and-death seconds, permitting the crew to take defensive positions and action immediately on completion of the bombing run.

**Ingenious G.I. in Alaska** Now Touring Soudrough. ANCHORAGE, ALASKA — War brought Pfc. John White to Alaska, but did not prevent him from having an automobile to drive around Anchorage while off duty.

An ingenious mechanic, White bought a stalled jalopy for \$40 and it added parts from six old Model T's and a 1932 Oldsmobile. The result, a Bouncing Bertha, which can do 46 miles an hour on two gallons of gas and has a pickup of at least three girls per being.

**False Teeth Now Being** Rationed in Germany. STOCKHOLM — A Berlin dispatch said recently that false teeth will be rationed strictly in Germany from now on, and can be had only by special permission of authorities.

Official permission also will be required for dental repairs, the dispatch to the Dagbladet newspaper said. The applicant must be able to prove an "imperative need" and turn in the old fillings.

## Ball Powder Is New Yank Feat

Explosive Produced Faster Than Smokeless Variety By Novel Process.

EAST ALTON, ILL. — Ball powder, a smokeless powder made by a revolutionary new process, is produced like a Panama hat—under water.

But powder-makers don't wear swimming suits to manufacture these tiny spherical balls of explosive that look like miniature BB shot. They don't even have to touch the powder.

Ball powder is made by a chemical process and is untouched by human hands from the moment raw materials are fed into stills until the completed ball powder globules are pumped out of huge water-filled sorting vats to be dried under infra-red lights.

Regarded by ammunition makers as one of the few major scientific achievements in the field of explosives since the Chinese invented gun powder, ball powder is being made here on the banks of the Mississippi river in the laboratories of the Western Cartridge company.

Safe and Fast. Ball powder is not only safe to make, but is being made ten times faster than smokeless powder made by conventional processes. The average manufacturing time for ball powder has been cut down from 360 days to 40 hours. Recently a batch of raw cotton was nitrated for ball powder at nine o'clock in the morning, and at three o'clock that afternoon cartridges loaded with the powder were being tested in the range of the Western Cartridge company. It was the fastest production of smokeless powder in history, Western workers believe.

Where ordinary smokeless powder is made by pressing nitrocellulose through dies and chopping the slender spaghetti-like rods into the proper sizes, ball powder is manufactured chemically under water. The mixture, it breaks into a multitude of tiny globules—the pellets of ball powder. The greater the speed of stirring, the smaller the balls become. A chemical is added to prevent the balls from running. After the balls are dried they are ready for loading into ammunition.

Although chemists are kept busy checking every stage of production, actual manufacture is so simple that few critical materials have been used in building the ball powder-making equipment. Local ballmakers constructed the stills and steamers to put together the pipe used to convey the product from one tank to another.

**U. S. Navy Plans to Step Up Training for Fliers** WASHINGTON, D. C. — The navy announced recently that it would re-institute part of its pilot training program, which was cut back last summer.

The increase in pilot training will give former aviation cadets and student aviators pilots who were separated from the preliminary stages of the program an opportunity to complete the program.

The navy said the accelerated tempo of the Pacific war was one reason for the increase in the training program. Another, the navy said, is the plan to speed up rotation of navy fliers, giving aviators more frequent periods in the United States for rehabilitation and refreshment.

At the same time the navy announced that 2,000 "carefully selected" enlisted men would begin V-12 college training July 1.

**Plane Production Soars, Reaches 96,369 in '44** WASHINGTON — American factories delivered 96,369 planes of all types in 1944, bringing production since July 1, 1940, to an all-time high of 283,226.

The 1944 output represented an increase of 11,423 planes, but by using weight as the yardstick the increase exceeded 50 per cent. Weight now is regarded as a more accurate gauge.

The trend toward greater average weight will continue in 1945, with increasing numbers of B-29 Superfortresses and other giants.

Planes in 1945, but Chairman J. A. Krug, WPB chairman, said recently that the indications are that this will be increased.

December deliveries totaled 6,697 planes, a slight decrease from November's 6,747, but there was no decline on a weight basis.

**Japanese Shot 'Em Down** But It Was Not for Keeps. WITH AMERICAN FORCES ON LUZON — A lot of the American boys who shot down on Luzon island by the Japanese prior to the Yank invasion are coming back.

One who returned was Capt. Robert W. Aschenbrenner, a member of Maj. Richard Bong's sky fighting outfit—made his way through the invasion and rejoined his fellow fliers.

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## Announcing Opening Sears

# NEW FARM STORE

IN LYNCHBURG

1023 Commerce Street

THUR. APRIL 12th.

Will carry a complete line of

David Bradley Farm Implements

and Parts - Sears Farm Master

Fencing - Farm Master Dairy

Supplies - Farm Master Poultry

Supplies and Baby Chicks - Ducks

and Turkeys - Feed - Seed

In fact you'll find a large general stock of Farm and

Garden Supplies - Sears invites you to visit this

NEW and COMPLETE Farm Store - Come Opening

Day. There will be EXTRA VALUES and SAVINGS.

9 FT. HEAVY DUTY

DISC HARROW 119.50

24" Disc 18" Disc

EASY TERMS

6 FT. HEAVY DUTY

DISC HARROW 101.50

20" Disc 18" Disc

EASY TERMS

TRAILER LIME SPREADER

Sears Easy Terms \$35.95

All Metal Saw Frame 39.95

4 Pt. Barrow, spool 4.20

5 Decker Brooder starter 79.95

Finisher

2-Horse Wood Wheel Wagon 101.00

2-inch tire

Baby Chicks 100 for 15.35

Also Ducks and Turkeys

ALL STEEL FARM TRUCK

600 x 16 Tires 167.50

Tapered Roller Bearings

Sears Easy Terms

1023 COMMERCE ST.

LYNCHBURG, VA.

SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO.

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One Horse Wagon

with brake \$67.80

ON SEARS EASY TERMS

ALL STEEL 10" HAMMER MILL 105.00

ONE HORSE SLIP HARNESS 19.95

TWO HORSE HARNESS 24.50

TABLE CREAM SEPARATOR 25.00

FLOOR MODEL SEPARATOR 101.40

2 Horse Wood Wheel Wagon 89.95

3 inch tires Easy Terms

70 - Tooth Spike HARROW 25.60

ON SEARS EASY TERMS

17 - Tooth Spring TOOTH HARROW 26.95

ON SEARS EASY TERMS

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## Yank 9th Army Within 50 Miles of Berlin This Morning

BACK UP YOUR BOY  
Increase your  
payroll savings  
to your family limit

A Live Weekly Newspaper, Serving the Heart of Virginia's Great Dark Tobacco Belt; At Historic Appomattox, Virginia, Where War Ended, April 9, 1865.

THE 53 NUMBER 15 PER COPY, FIVE CENTS

APPOMATTOX, VIRGINIA THURSDAY APRIL 12, 1945

ESTABLISHED: 1892

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## 7th War Loan Quota To Be \$165,000

Call Muster of Minute Men For April 22

Governor Colgate W. Darden Jr. has ordered a full mobilization and muster of the Virginia Reserve Militia (Minute Men) to be held Sunday April 22.

Captains G. F. Abbott Jr. and M. A. Boker have called both local companies for muster at the Court House at 2:30 P. M. that date. Members will come properly armed and in uniform for drilling and in uniform for drilling.

**Wilbur's Store Moves Today** As of today, R. E. Wilbur, local merchant, has been moved to the J. D. Morris store building, Mr. Wilbur has been in the building for several years. Friends wish him continued success at his new stand.

**Prof. Fisher to Conduct Class** Professor John G. Fisher, who recently moved to Appomattox from Stoneham, Mass., has announced that he will begin a class in adult business education here. The class will be conducted in the local high school, three nights weekly, beginning Wednesday, May 2, at 8 P. M. He plans to offer a practical course in business to both men and women. Those interested in attending should contact him at once and after the war.

**Hixburg** Hixburg, April 10. The Food Conservation class will be held on Friday night, April 20. This class is the last meeting for this season.

**Liberty Chapel** Liberty Chapel, April 10. Our community was visited by a most destructive frost last Thursday night. All Friday night, all vegetables were badly damaged and some totally destroyed. Practically all of the fruit was destroyed.

**Senior Class Presents Play** The Senior Class of the Appomattox High School will present a play, "The Bride," at the school Thursday, April 19, at 8 P. M.

**Ball Team Lost** Appomattox High School basketball team defeated Amherst last Thursday, 14 to 5, and lost to Buckingham yesterday, 7 to 2.

**Your War Bond Investment Is Your Investment In America** British and Yanks making push on Italian front.

**Win Bond Dollars the Double Duty** Service men are still being sent overseas.

**Food supply investigation being made by Congress.**

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**Funeral of G. H. Ranson** Mr. Goodman Henry Ranson, 67, died here Monday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. W. B. Ranson, following an extended illness. He was born in this county, son of the late P. C. and Annie Ranson. His late wife was Miss Jamima Alma Cawthorne.

He was a member of the Rock Baptist Church, where the funeral services were held Wednesday at 3:00 P. M., conducted by Rev. M. Black and Rev. T. E. Good.

He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. J. J. Anderson and Mrs. W. B. Ranson, and one son, Calvin Ranson, U. S. Navy.

Active pallbearers were: Raymond L. Wilson, Walter T. Ranson, Aubrey C. Ranson, Ernest W. Ranson, Thomas D. Ranson, John H. Martin, Honorary pallbearers: A. A. Baldwin, Cal Ranson, G. T. Marsh, H. F. Martin, A. T. Anderson, Bob Jennings, Tipton Jennings, Jim H. Ranson, Dr. D. A. Christian, S. C. T. Moore, C. S. R. Deamon, Holmes Inge, R. Lee Wood, W. C. Gilliam, C. E. Lefell, S. D. Day, Tom Ranson, Jack Ranson, R. F. Godsey, and P. M. Burton. Flower bearers were: James Jesse Harding, Rhoney Wilson, James Thaxton, J. Preston Elder, Aubrey C. Ranson, Walter T. Ranson, Richard D. Inge, Clarence Evans, Otis Ranson, Roy E. Gowin, Edward Ranson, Percy Carter, Thos. Ranson, James Dinkins, Boyd Ranson, Misses Mary Lou Simmons, Odell Ranson, Elva Ranson, Cassie Baldwin, Elvira Martin, Ethel Garrett, Geraldine Ranson, Annie Martin.

Interment was in the church cemetery.

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